(a) whether Government propose to bring changes in power policy to promote the Hydro power production in hilly States such as Himachal Pradesh and Arunachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the same is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Government of India has announced the National Electricity Policy in February, 2005, which, among others, lays emphasis on harnessing hydro potential speedily to facilitate economic development of States, particularly that of North-Eastern States, Sikkim, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.

Keeping in view the unique problems associated with hydro projects, a suggestion is under examination that the exemption from tariff based bidding available to the public sector under Clause 5.1 of Tariff Policy till January, 2011 may also be extended to the private sector.

Setting up of new power transmission projects

†83. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 14 large projects have been formulated in transmission sector of the country thereby making transmission possible across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of these projects along with the quantum of power transmission and destination targeted under each of the projects; and

(d) the target set for completion of the work on these projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) There exists at present a 'National Grid' which allows wheeling of power across the country. 14 new projects are planned to be developed through competitive bidding, which will form part of the 'National Grid'.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Government of India has issued guidelines for encouraging competition in development of transmission projects and guidelines for tariff based competitive bidding for transmission services. An Empowered Committee, constituted as per the provisions of these guidelines have identified 14 transmission projects for private participation. Of these, four projects—two projects each through Special Purpose Vehicle of Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)—have been taken up. Expressions of interest were invited in January, 2007. Selection of the developer for identified projects would be through tariff based bidding for transmission services.

(c) and (d) The details are given in the Statement.

Statement

Setting up of New Power Transmission projects

Sl. No.	Name of Transmission Project	Quantum of Power Transmission	Beneficiary States/ Regions	Tentative Target Date
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Evacuation System for North Karanpura (1980 MW)	1980 MW	States of ER, WR and NR	2011-12., Transmission target to match generation project
2.	Talcher Augmentation System	To augment transmission for reliable evacuation of power of 2000 MW from Talcher-II project.	States of SR	2009-10
3.	Evacuation System for Maithon RB (1000MW)	1000MW	States of ER, NR and WR	2011-12 Transmission target to match generation project
4.	Scheme for enabling import of NER/ER surplus by NR	1500 MW	States of NER, ER and NR	2011-12
5.	SR-WR Synchronous Inter-Connector	1000 MW	States of SR and WR	2011-12

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Kawas-Navsari 400 KV D/C	1000 MW	States of WR	2011-12
7.	Navsari-Mumbai New location, 400KV D/C	1000 MW	States of WR	2011-12
8.	Evacuation System for Barh-II (1320 MW)	1320 MW	States of ER, NR and WR	2011-12 Transmission target to match generation project
9.	Evacuation System for Nabinagar (1000MW)	1000MW	States of ER, NR and WR	2011-12 Transmission target to match generation project
10.	Evacuation System for Daripally Integrated Project (3200 MW), 800 MW in 11th Plan	3200 MW. (800 MW in 11th Plan)	States of ER, NR and WR	2011-12 Transmission target to match generation project
11.	Evacuation System for Koderma (500 MW)	500 MW	States of NR	2011-12 Transmission target to match generation project
12.	Evacuation System for Mejia Ext. (1000 MW)	1000 MW	States of NR	2011-12 Transmission target to match generation project
13.	Evacuation System for Lara Integrated Project	4000 MW (800 MW in 11th Plan)	States of WR	2011-12 Transmission target to match generation project
14.	Evacuation System for Simhadri Ext. (1000 MW)	1000 MW	States of SR	2011-12 Transmission target to match generation project

Four of these 14 projects, which are in the pipeline through Special Purpose Vehicle of Power Finance Corporation (PFC) and Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), are.

Projects through PFC:

1. Evacuation System for Maithon RB (1000 MW), Koderma (1000 MW) and Bokaro ext. (500 MW)
2. Scheme for enabling import of NER/ER surplus by NR

Projects through REC:

1. Evacuation System for North Karanpura (1980 MW)
2. Talcher Augmentation System.

Setting up of merchant power plants

†84. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have chalked out a plan to set up 25 merchant power plants in the country;

(b) if so, the detailed outlines of this plan and the total power generation capacity of these projects;

(c) whether it is a fact that the selling price of power generated under these projects will be fixed as desired by the project owners; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) In order to facilitate the development of electricity markets, the Ministry of Power has issued the guidelines on development of Merchant Power Plants, for which coal linkage/captive coal blocks would be available. The Ministry of Power, in consultation with the Ministry of Coal, has identified 15 coal blocks with estimated reserves of about 3.6 Billion tones for allocation to merchant and captive power plants through the Screening Committee route. The number of merchant plants are not firmed up as it will depend upon the availability of sites and other inputs required for the setting up of the Merchant Power Plants which are required to be tied up by the developer.

(c) and (d) The selling price of power generated under these projects

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.